

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PHNOM 02277 061522Z

50

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-04 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /064 W

----- 054550

R 060635Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9232

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMUSSAG NKP THAI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PHNOM PENH 2277

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, MILI, CB

SUBJECT: LON NOL PROCLAMATION ON CIVIL DEFENSE

REFS: (A) FBIS BANGKOK 051657Z FEB 75

(B) FBIS BANGKOK 051732Z FEB 75

(C) FBIS BANGKOK 051820Z FEB 75

1. THE REFERENCED FBIS BROADCASTS TRANSMIT PRESIDENT LON NOL'S FEBRUARY 5 "ORDER" TO THE POPULATION OF PHNOM PENH ON CIVIL DEFENSE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN WITHIN THE CITY AND PHNOM PENH SPECIAL MILITARY REGION COMMANDER BRIGADIER GENERAL CHHIM CHHUON'S "EXPLANATION" OF AND ELABORATION OF THE MARSHAL'S MESSAGE. LON NOL AND CHHIM CHHUON DESCRIBE THE LOSSES AND SETBACKS THE KC HAVE SUFFERED OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS, AND THE BRUTAL TACTICS THEY ARE USING DURING THE CURRENT OFFENSIVE. THE BROADCASTS URGE THE POPULATION TO COOPERATE WITH CIVIL DEFENSE OFFICIALS AND CADRE IN DIGGING TRENCHES, KEEPING WEAPONS AT THE READY, BEING ON THE ALERT FOR INFILTRATION, ETC. THE MARSHAL AND CHHIM CHHUON ALSO STRESS THE NEED FOR CALM AND RESPONSIBLE REACTIONS,

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AND TO AVOID OVERESTIMATING ENEMY STRENGTH.

2. COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND THE BBC HAS CITED THESE
BROADCASTS AS ANOTHER ILLUSTRATION OF PHNOM PENH'S
DETERIORATING SITUATION. IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT,
TO COUNTER SUCH INTERPRETATIONS, THAT THE PROCLAMATIONS
HAVE BECOME A DRY SEASON ANNUAL EVENT; LON NOL ISSUED
SIMILAR MESSAGES THE PAST TWO YEARS. THE POPULATION
IN THE PAST HAS PAID CONSIDERABLY LESS ATTENTION TO
THE MESSAGES THAN THE FOREIGN PRESS AND THE SAME RE-
ACTION IS LIKELY THIS YEAR.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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